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at a lower price than "regular stores" can afford to meet, makes it necessary for all stores to sell at a more reasonable price than would be necessary if there were no strictly cash store in the city.

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Salem, - - - Oregon

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Drexler & Alexander

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with your horses comes largely through the constant use of GOOD HARNESS

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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO FORGING AND INTERFERING HORSES. DISEASED FEET A SPECIALTY. FIRST DOOR NORTH OF INDEPENDENCE FEED STORE.

INDEPENDENCE,

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CONFORMATION IS ESSENTIAL IN BREEDING DRAFT HORSES

Of the 100,000 Animals Marketed at Chicago Not More Than 5,000 Would be Termed A-1—Economy of Heavy Mares on Farm for Work and Producing Colts Is Summed Up by Expert.



An Excellent Farm Team.

There are a number of considerations for the farmers to keep in mind in breeding horses for the draft horse trade. Among these are that size, weight, condition and character each bear an important influence in determining the prices paid on the markets and therefore that this influence is reflected upon the prices which they receive from the country shippers and buyers, says the Wisconsin Agriculturist. Nothing that influences the large central markets for the products of the farm fails to affect the sale of a single article directly on the farm.

Probably the one thing which the general run of horses that reach the markets lack more often than any other is size and incidentally therefore weight. It is stated from good authority that there are more good horses marketed in the Union Stock Yards at Chicago than any other place in the United States, and yet of the 100,000 horses marketed there not more than 25,000 would weigh over 1,500 pounds, and not more than 5,000 were what would be termed A-1 horses. First class draft horses for the city trade should not weigh less than 1,600 pounds when in working condition, and if they weigh 1,750 pounds they will satisfy all the better. To carry such weights horses should stand about 16 hands high or over and should have conformations in proportion.

The condition of a horse is all important, both as to soundness and thrift. Horses that have poor feet, bad hocks, weak wind, or poor shoulders are sticklers on the market. They sell very slowly and at very low prices. So also do horses that are in a poor condition of thrift. Fat always helps to sell horses quickly and at good prices, for it makes them look good and the horses, moreover, do not need to be conditioned before they can be put to work. A horse which looks thin when it leaves the farm is liable to look considerably thinner after it has been shipped and arrives at the sales stables. Fat horses ship far better than thin, thriftless ones. Then, too, the suspicion of being a poor doer on the best of care is liable to attach itself to the thin horse in the mind of the buyer, whereas when he looks upon a well conditioned horse no such suspicion occurs to him.

Character is a valuable asset to any horse that is placed on the market, and like size and weight is generally lacking in the usual stock of horses to be selected from in the country. A horse that shows intelligence, good breeding and those qualities that come through careful handling and good training will out-sell the common, plain looking horses by a considerable margin; size, weight and condition being otherwise alike.

The man on the farm engaging in horse production from the viewpoint of dollars and cents and anxious to make his acres earn the highest net returns should breed his mares to the best sire that are available combining size, weight, soundness and character, and should breed to them consistently. They should endeavor also as soon as possible, either by purchase or by breeding up, to possess themselves of big draft mares combining those qualities. The only regrettable thing about the sale of the dapple gray mares on the January 11, 1912 Chicago horse market for \$1,000, is that the mares were not purchased by some good farmer to be used for breeding and farm work purposes instead of by a Chicago teaming firm to draw a big wagon. It is regrettable that they should ever have gotten away from the farm, for if they were worth \$1,000 for drawing a big wagon and heavy loads, certainly they were worth that on the farm where they could do work to earn their cost of maintenance and raise colts worth \$1,000.

The economy of the heavy mare on the farm, both from the standpoint of doing farm work and producing colts compared with light and medium weight mares is nicely summed up as follows by Secretary Dinmore of the Percheron Society of America: "The cost of maintenance under farm conditions is about the same, the heavier mares are more efficient in the work of the farm, the colts are ready for work a year younger, and if carried to the same age, will bring about twice as much as the colts from the

light weight mares and about one-third or one-quarter more than the colts from the medium weight mares."

This summary was drawn up after some careful thinking, upon the question being put to the secretary by an extensive land owner looking forward to the purchase and breeding of horses. "What kind of mares should I use? I want to know all things considered, whether I should buy a 1,200 pound, a 1,400 pound or a 1,700 pound mare?" In other words, the land owner as a business man wanted to know what would be the relative cost of maintenance, what the relative efficiency on the farm and what the relative market value of the colts produced, of these three classes of mares. Here is how he thinks out the matter, and his thinking was based on extended observation and experience:

All three classes can, of course, be managed, as far as maintenance cost is concerned, at about the same general figures. But in respect to working efficiency, if we rate the 1,700 pound horse at 100 per cent, liberal allowance is made if the 1,450 pound horse is credited at 90 per cent, and the 1,200 pound horse at 80 per cent. The colts bred to a good draft sire will average somewhere about 1,500 pounds; colts from 1,450 pound mares 1,600 to 1,700 pounds, and colts from 1,700 pound mares, 1,800 to 2,000 pounds. Then, too, the lighter weight colts necessarily make their full weight only at maturity and they will not be fit to sell until they are four and one-half or five years of age. The same is true of the medium weight colts, but buyers are scouring the country for heavy colts. Every good gelding is gathered up at three years of age. The heavier colts sell earlier, or if carried until they are older and then put on the market, the prices advance accordingly. Colts weighing around 1,500 pounds will not bring more than \$140 to \$175 on the average, because they come in competition with the great glut of common light drafters on the market. Those weighing around 1,650 pounds to 1,700 pounds will bring \$200 to \$240, and heavy weight geldings will bring \$300 to \$350. The heavy mares therefore produce colts that bring from one-third to twice as much money as the lower weight mares.

USING GROUND FEED FOR HOGS

Feed in Conjunction With Corn Will Bring Animals Up to Large Weight in Short Time.

In finishing hogs I make a slop of ground oats and shelled corn (ground) and a small handful of oilmeal to each hog, says a writer in Swine Breeders' Journal. This feed, in conjunction with ear corn, or shuck corn if possible, will bring hogs up to large weights in a surprisingly short time.

I believe that most up-to-date stock raisers will agree that with such kinds of grain as wheat, rye and barley, grinding and mixing with other feeds is absolutely essential. For example, no one would think of feeding wheat to hogs without first thoroughly soaking it or running it through a feed mill. It may not be necessary to grind it very fine, but it should at least be crushed pretty completely, or ground fine enough so that the hard, compact portions of the grain will not go through the animal, undigested. This is true for old as well as young animals.

Another point upon which most people will agree is that for the young growing stock, especially animals which do not have a full set of teeth, grinding is necessary. It not only enables young animals to get more of their feed, but they eat greater quantities and grow much more rapidly. On unground feed of the type noted, a young animal would do very little good; but if wheat, barley, rye, etc., be ground and mixed with a little corn, they will thrive.

Leveling Board.

A leveling board attached to the cultivator helps to reduce the loss of soil moisture by evaporation. When the ground is kept fine and level, less surface is exposed to the air and the capillarity at the surface is less active.

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